IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s) : Hiroshi Yoshida et al.

Serial No. : To be assigned

Filed : Herewith (October 13, 2006)

Entitled : FRACTURE PREDICTION DEVICE FOR SPOT WELDED

PORTION, METHOD OF THE SAME, COMPUTER

PROGRAM, AND COMPUTER-READABLE RECORDING

MEDIUM

Group Art Unit : To be assigned

Examiner : To be assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A, and respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the above-captioned application. Copies of the references listed on the Form PTO/SB/08A are enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under

188482/US - 465122-00030 PATENT

United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law

regarding the appropriate status of the documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the

patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be

applied against the claims of the present application.

This submission is being filed before any action by the U.S. Patent and

Trademark Office on the merits. Therefore, applicants do not believe that any fee is due in

connection with the submission of this paper. However, if any fee is due, or if any overpayment

has been made, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any such fee or credit any

overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-2054.

Respectfully submitted,

DORSEY & WHITNEY, LLP

Date: October 13, 2006

Gary Abelev, Esq. USPTO Reg. No. 40,479

Attorney for Applicant

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO					Appl	Application Number		To be assigned					
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS													
*Examiner Initials	Cite No.				lication Date		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document		Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear				
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		JP	0			07-05-1994 01-31-2002		Mitsubishi Motors Corp.			⊠ **		
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.													

^{**} English language translation of abstract enclosed. *** References cited in International Search Report

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*Examiner	Cite		Include na	ame of the author (in CAPITAL	LETTERS), title of the article (when	appropriate), title of the	TRANSLATION			
Initials	number(s), publishe				er, city and/or country where publishe	ed	YES NO			
		7, Pages	Osamu Takatori et al., "Crash Simulation on Rail Car Body", JARI Research Journal Vol. 24, No. 7, Pages 265-268***							
		Society	Eizaburo Nakanishi et al., "Possibilities of Prediction of Failure at Spot Welds in a Car Collision", Society of Automotive Engineering of Japan, No. 88-00, pages 1-4***							
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		"Specim welded j	"Specimen dimensions and procedure for shear testing resistance spot and embossed projected welded joints", Japanese Industrial Standard, March 20, 1999, pages 1-10**							
			"Specimen dimensions and procedure for cross tension testing resistance spot and embossed projected welded joints", Japanese Industrial Standard, March 20,1999, pages 1-8**							
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